



CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

November 20, 2001

H.R. 645

Rhinoceros and Tiger Conservation Reauthorization Act of 2001

*As ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works
on November 8, 2001*

SUMMARY

H.R. 645 would reauthorize funding for projects carried out under the Rhinoceros and Tiger Conservation Act of 1994. Specifically, the act would authorize appropriations through 2007 for such projects to the Multinational Species Conservation Fund at the existing authorization level of up to \$10 million annually. The current authorizations expire after fiscal year 2002. The Secretary of the Interior uses this fund primarily to help finance research and conservation programs overseas.

Assuming appropriation of the authorized amounts, CBO estimates that implementing H.R. 645 would cost \$35 million over the 2003-2006 period. (An additional \$15 million would be spent after 2006.) The legislation would not affect direct spending or receipts; therefore, pay-as-you-go procedures would not apply. H.R. 645 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act (UMRA) and would not affect the budgets of state, local, or tribal governments.

ESTIMATED COST TO THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

The estimated budgetary impact of H.R. 645 is shown in the following table. For this estimate, CBO assumes that the entire amounts authorized by the act would be appropriated for each fiscal year. Outlay estimates are based on recent spending patterns for this program. The cost of this legislation falls within budget function 300 (natural resources and environment).

| | By Fiscal Year, in Millions of Dollars | | | | |
|--------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|------|------|------|------|
| | 2002 | 2003 | 2004 | 2005 | 2006 |
| SPENDING SUBJECT TO APPROPRIATION | | | | | |
| Spending Under Current Law | | | | | |
| Budget Authority ^a | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Estimated Outlays | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Proposed Changes | | | | | |
| Estimated Authorization Level | 0 | 10 | 10 | 10 | 10 |
| Estimated Outlays | 0 | 6 | 9 | 10 | 10 |
| Spending Under H.R. 645 | | | | | |
| Estimated Authorization Level ^a | 1 | 10 | 10 | 10 | 10 |
| Estimated Outlays | 1 | 6 | 9 | 10 | 10 |

a. Current law authorizes \$10 million for rhinoceros and tiger conservation in 2002. However, only \$1 million has been appropriated (thus far) for this year.

PAY-AS-YOU-GO CONSIDERATIONS: None.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND PRIVATE-SECTOR IMPACT

H.R. 645 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in UMRA and would not affect on the budgets of state, local, or tribal governments.

PREVIOUS CBO ESTIMATE

On May 18, 2001, CBO prepared a cost estimate for H.R. 645 as ordered reported by the House Committee on Resources on May 16, 2001. The two versions of the legislation are identical, as are the estimated costs.

ESTIMATE PREPARED BY:

Federal Costs: Deborah Reis

Impact on State, Local, and Tribal Governments: Marjorie Miller

Impact on the Private Sector: Lauren Marks

ESTIMATE APPROVED BY:

Peter H. Fontaine

Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis